



National Statistics Office of Georgia

## External Merchandise Trade in Georgia

# 2016

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JANUARY-JULY

19.08.2016

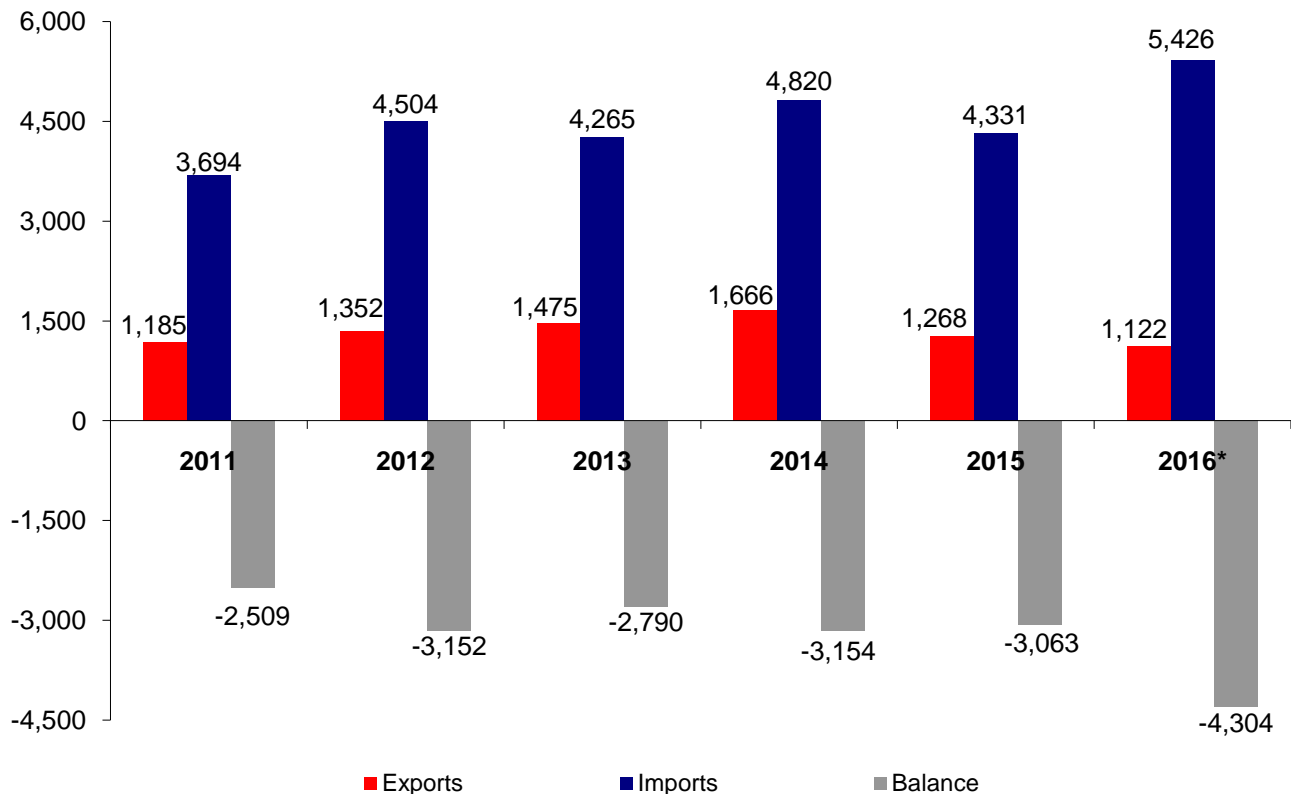
19.08.2016

## External Trade of Georgia in January-July 2016 (Preliminary)

In January-July 2016 external merchandise trade (excluding non-organized trade) in Georgia amounted to USD 6548 million, 17 percent higher year-on-year. The exports equaled USD 1122 million (12 percent lower), while the imports stood at USD 5426 million (25 percent higher). It should be noticed that in the accounting period import of C hepatitis medicaments took place excluding which import equals USD 3869 (6 percent lower). The negative trade balance was USD 4304 million in January-July 2016 and its share in external trade turnover constituted 66 percent. Export excluding re-export amounted to USD 898 million.

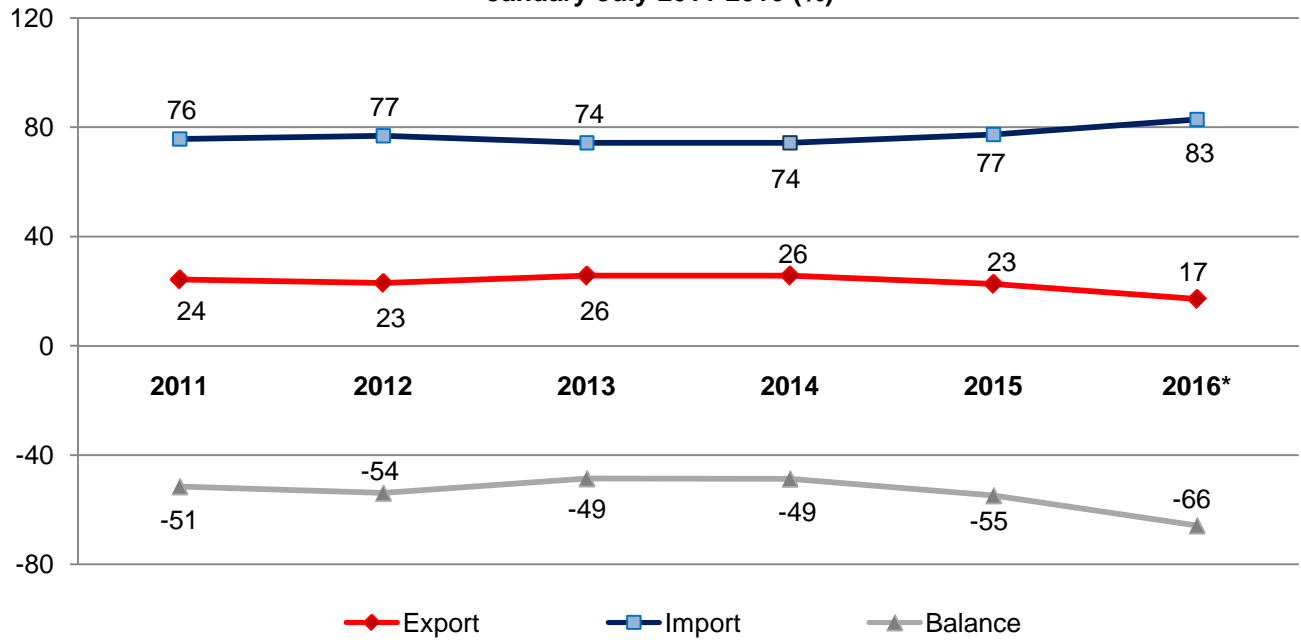
The charts below reflect basic trends of the external trade of Georgia for 2011-2016:

**General data on external trade of Georgia in  
January-July 2011-2016  
(Million US Dollars)**



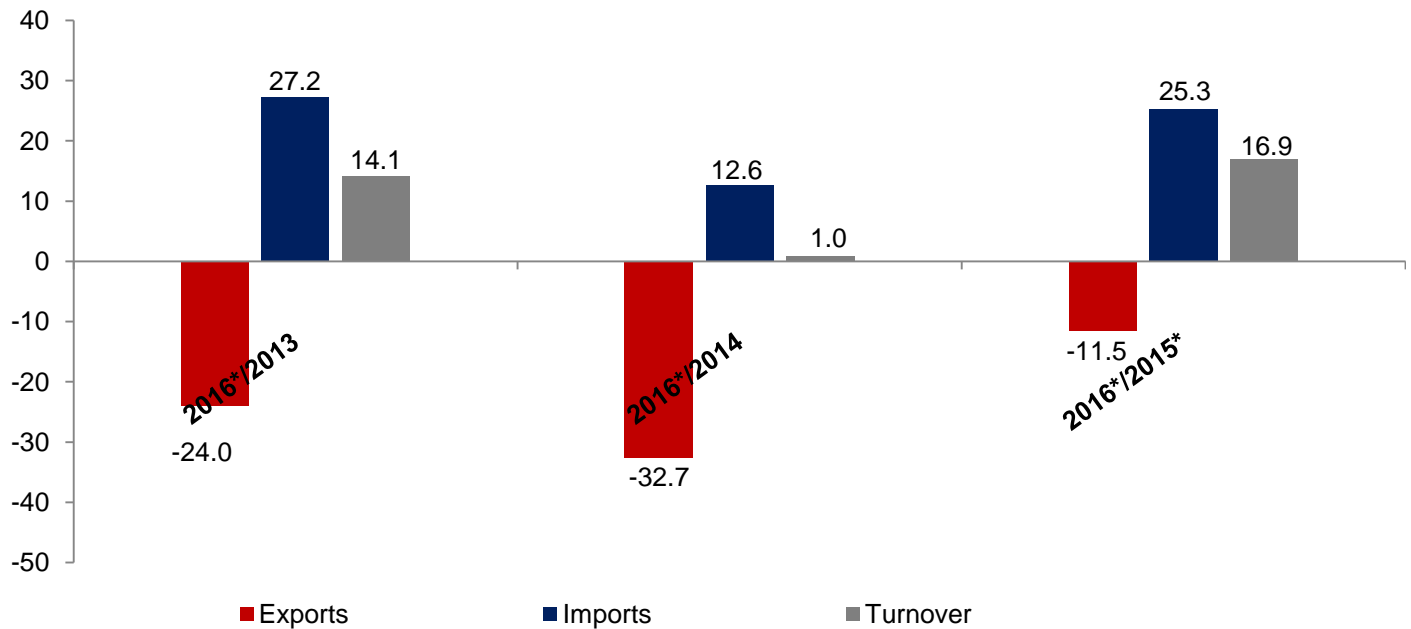
\*Preliminary data.

Share of external trade indicators in turnover  
January-July 2011-2016 (%)



\*Preliminary data.

Percentage changes in January-July 2016 compared to the same period of the previous years (%)



\*Preliminary data.

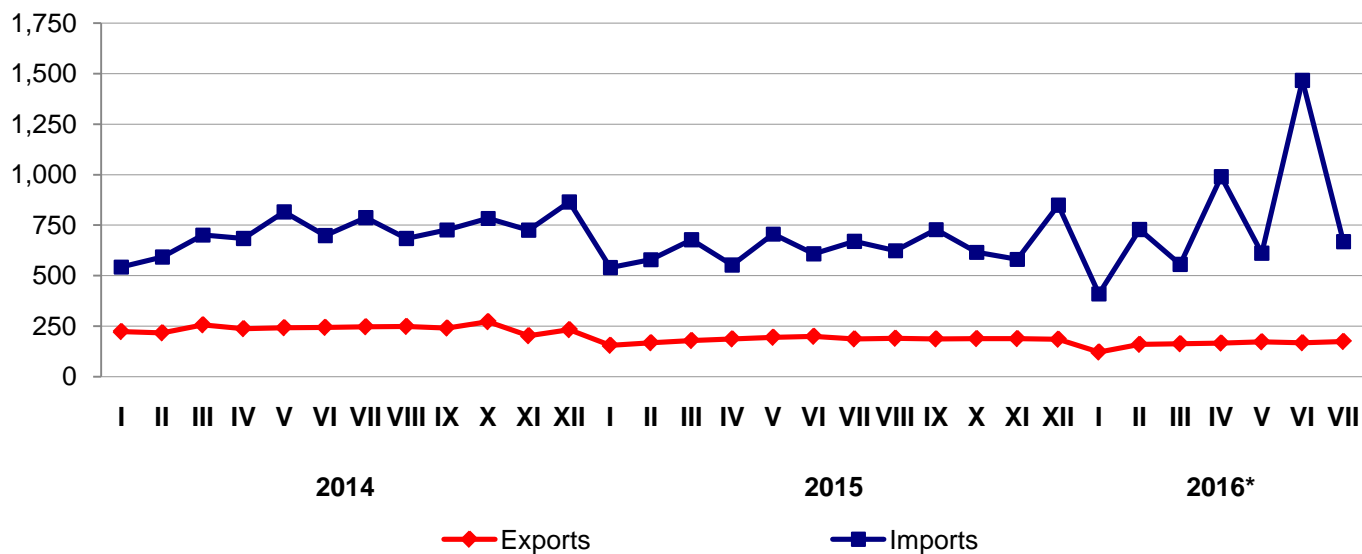
The table below shows monthly data for 2015-2016 exports and imports in absolute indicators and their change (in percentage) compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

### Exports and imports of Georgia

		Exports		Imports	
		Thsd. US Dollars	Changes m-o-m (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Changes m-o-m (%)
2015*	January	155 073.9	-30.7	538 891.2	-0.8
	February	167 229.4	-22.6	579 977.5	-2.0
	March	179 075.4	-30.1	676 965.1	-3.5
	April	186 555.0	-21.3	552 058.5	-19.2
	May	194 612.1	-19.8	706 417.7	-13.3
	June	198 583.8	-18.7	607 536.1	-13.0
	July	187 036.3	-24.0	669 370.3	-14.9
	August	190 362.2	-23.1	624 263.4	-8.6
	September	186 333.1	-22.3	728 605.6	0.2
	October	187 914.1	-31.0	616 128.3	-21.4
	November	187 288.3	-7.6	581 222.6	-19.8
	December	184 620.7	-20.8	848 666.9	-1.8
2016*	January	122 161.0	-21.2	410 288.7	-23.9
	February	158 749.4	-5.1	727 529.5	25.4
	March	161 900.1	-9.6	554 990.1	-18.0
	April	165 302.9	-11.4	989 014.4	79.2
	May	172 239.0	-11.5	610 832.1	-13.5
	June	167 884.9	-15.5	1 465 821.5	141.3
	July	173 575.0	-7.2	667 763.5	-0.2

\*Preliminary data.

**Exports and imports dynamics by months, 2014-2016**  
(Million US Dollars)



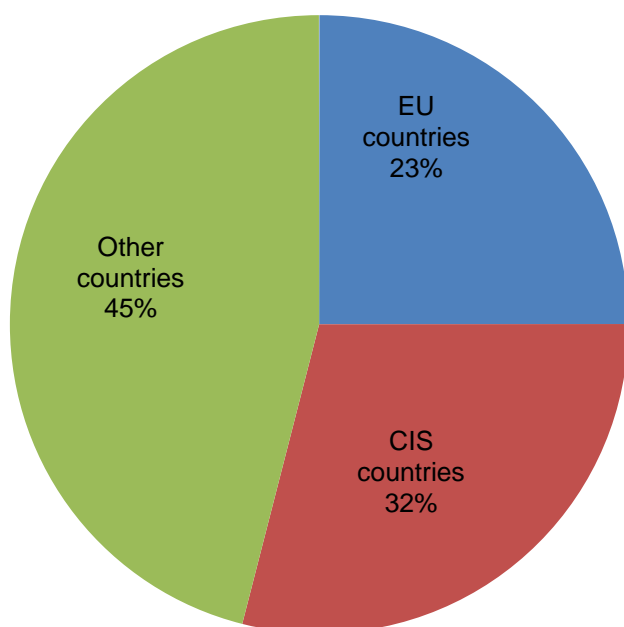
\*Preliminary data.

In January-July 2016 the external trade turnover of Georgia with the EU countries amounted to USD 1677 million, decreased by 3 percent compared to the corresponding indicator of the previous year. Exports amounted to USD 254 million (25 percent lower), while imports amounted to USD 1423 million (2 percent higher). The share of these countries in the external trade turnover of Georgia amounted to 26 percent, 23 percent in exports and 26 percent in imports (in January-July 2015 31, 27 and 32 percent correspondingly). 27 percent of the trade deficit came to the EU countries (34 percent in January-July 2015).

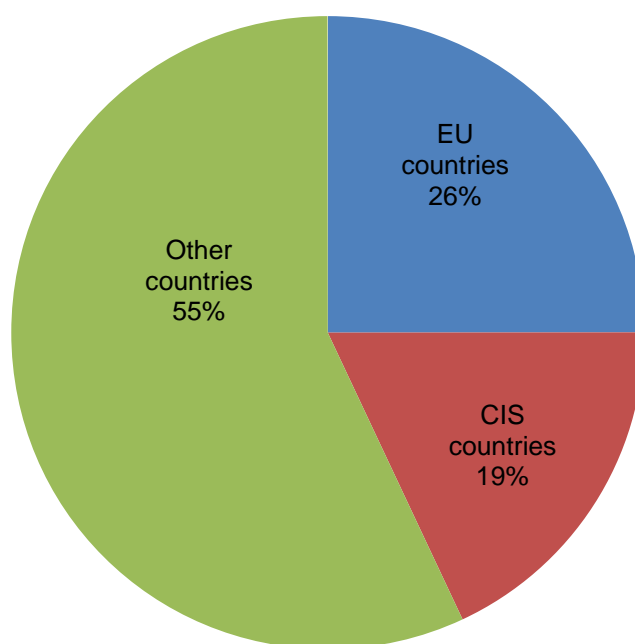
In January-July 2016 the external trade turnover of Georgia with the CIS countries totaled USD 1393 million (lower by 11 percent compared to January-July 2015). Exports stood at USD 358 million (27 percent lower), while imports equaled USD 1035 million (3 percent lower). The share of the CIS countries in the external trade turnover of Georgia constituted 21 percent, 32 percent in exports and 19 percent in imports (In January-July 2015 28, 39 and 25 percent, respectively). In January-July 2016, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, CIS countries accounted for 16 percent of the overall trade deficit (19 percent in January-July 2015).

The diagrams below show the share of the exports and imports of Georgia by country groups.

**Georgian exports by country groups  
January-July 2016\***



**Georgian import by country groups  
January-July 2016\***



\*Preliminary data.

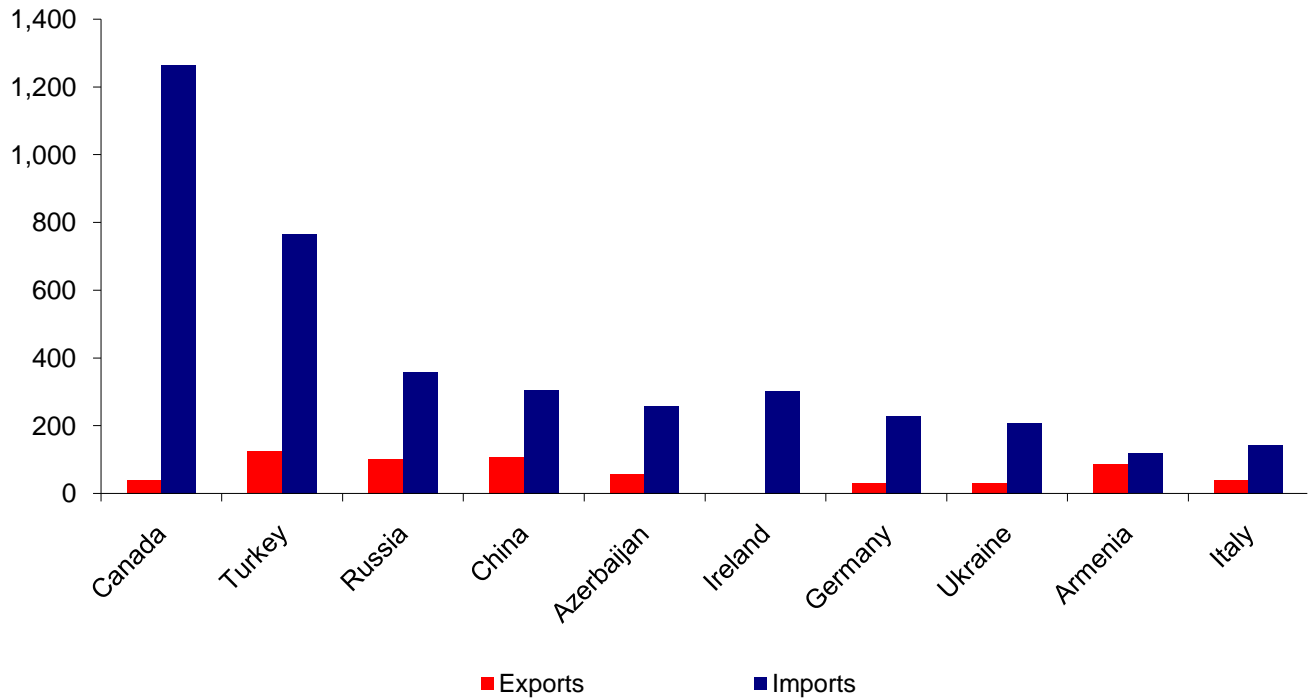
In January-July 2016 share of the top ten trading partners in the total external trade turnover of Georgia amounted to 70 percent. The top trading partners were Canada (USD 1304 million), Turkey (USD 891 million) and Russia (USD 460 million).

**Top trading partners by turnover in January-July 2016\***

	Exports		Imports		Turnover	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 121 812.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5 426 239.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6 548 052.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>
of which:						
Canada	40 002.8	3.6	1 264 372.6	23.3	1 304 375.5	19.9
Turkey	123 997.2	11.1	767 277.6	14.1	891 274.8	13.6
Russia	101 569.5	9.1	358 013.2	6.6	459 582.7	7.0
China	109 233.5	9.7	303 895.4	5.6	413 129.0	6.3
Azerbaijan	58 247.5	5.2	259 172.1	4.8	317 419.5	4.8
Ireland	257.7	0.0	301 325.3	5.6	301 583.0	4.6
Germany	29 344.3	2.6	228 781.0	4.2	258 125.3	3.9
Ukraine	31 665.0	2.8	207 397.9	3.8	239 062.8	3.7
Armenia	87 432.4	7.8	118 201.3	2.2	205 633.7	3.1
Italy	40 029.9	3.6	142 884.7	2.6	182 914.6	2.8
Other countries	500 032.4	44.6	1 474 918.7	27.2	1 974 951.1	30.2

\*Preliminary data.

**Top trading partners by turnover in January-July 2016\***  
(Million US Dollars)



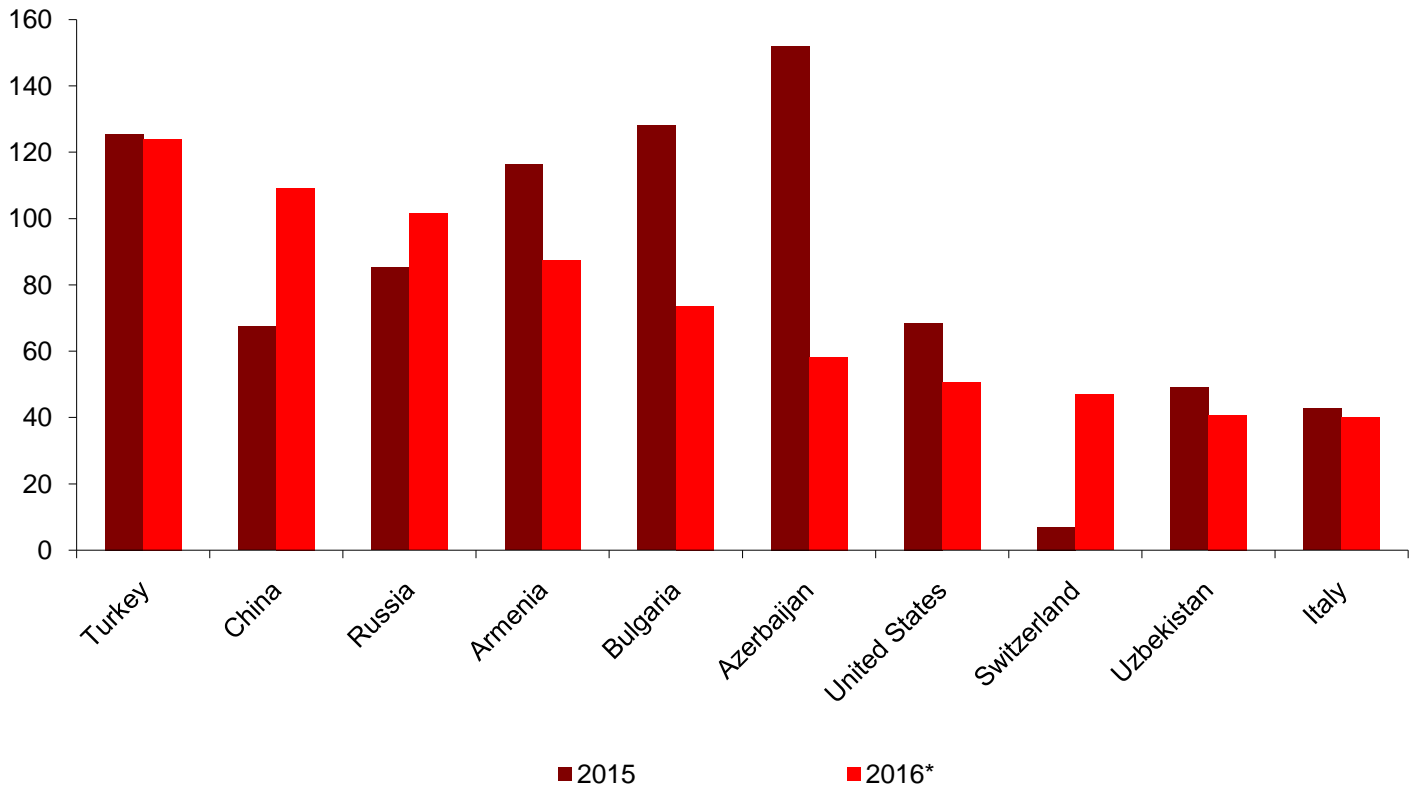
\*Preliminary data.

**Top trading partners by exports in January-July 2016**

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>1 268 165.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 121 812.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Of which:				
Turkey	125 423.1	9.9	123 997.2	11.1
China	67 439.1	5.3	109 233.5	9.7
Russia	85 167.5	6.7	101 569.5	9.1
Armenia	116 234.6	9.2	87 432.4	7.8
Bulgaria	128 084.3	10.1	73 657.8	6.6
Azerbaijan	152 055.9	12.0	58 247.5	5.2
United States	68 548.2	5.4	50 614.3	4.5
Switzerland	6 910.7	0.5	46 873.2	4.2
Uzbekistan	48 969.9	3.9	40 719.6	3.6
Italy	42 646.9	3.4	40 029.9	3.6
Other countries	426 685.7	33.6	389 437.4	34.7

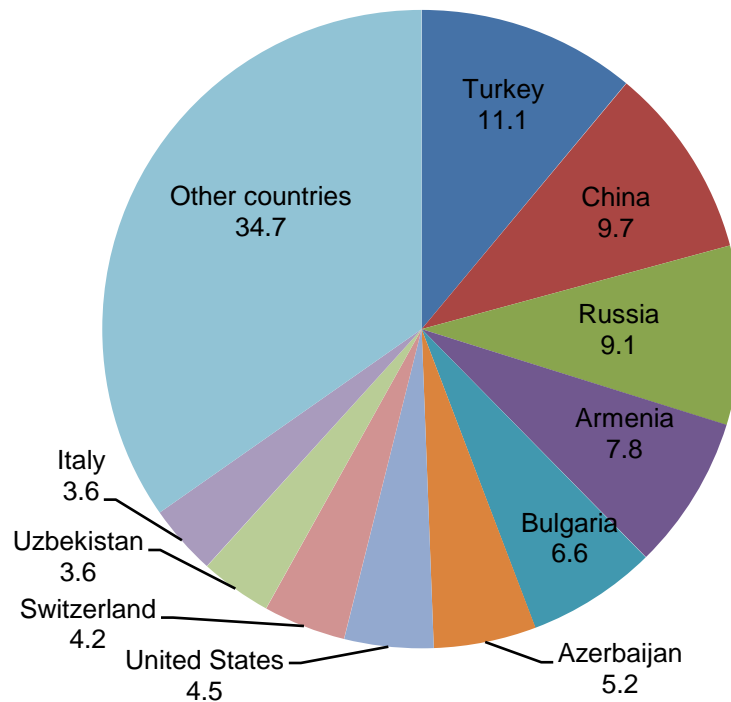
\*Preliminary data.

**Top trading partners by exports in January-July 2015-2016**  
(Million US Dollars)



\*Preliminary data.

**Share of the top trading partners in total exports in January-July 2016\* (%)**



\*Preliminary data.

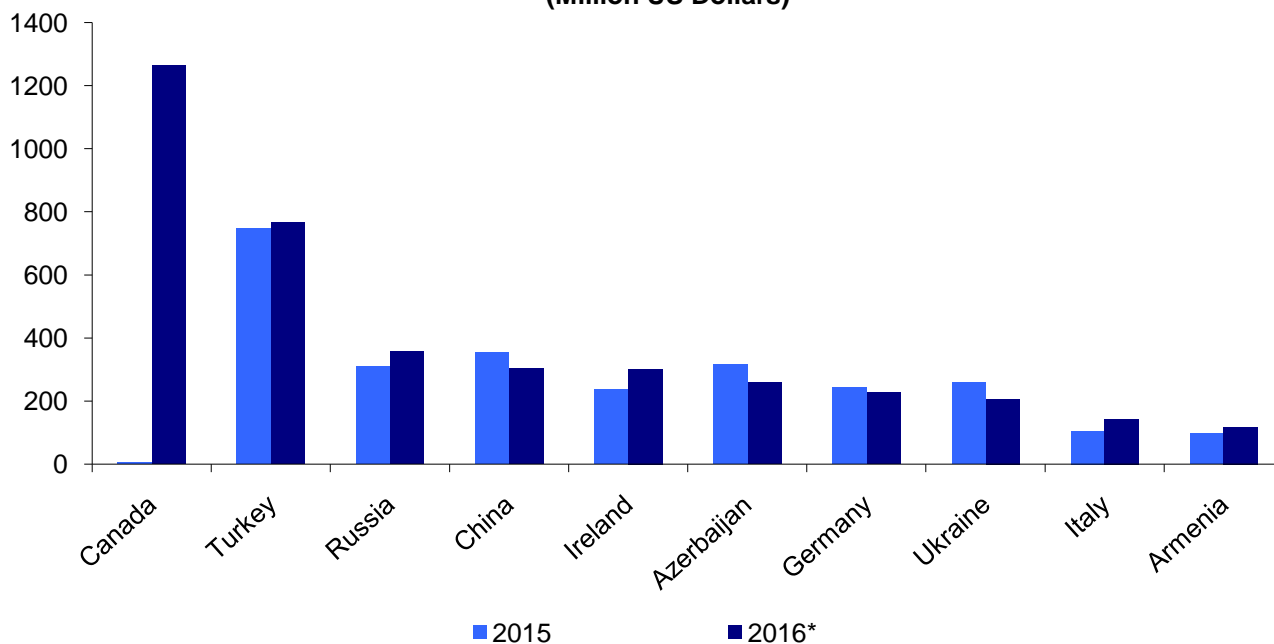


### Top trading partners by imports in January-July 2016

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>4 331 216.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5 426 239.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Of which:				
Canada	5 978.2	0.1	1 264 372.6	23.3
Turkey	746 807.8	17.2	767 277.6	14.1
Russia	310 899.3	7.2	358 013.2	6.6
China	354 713.0	8.2	303 895.4	5.6
Ireland	236 714.3	5.5	301 325.3	5.6
Azerbaijan	315 135.8	7.3	259 172.1	4.8
Germany	243 510.1	5.6	228 781.0	4.2
Ukraine	258 448.0	6.0	207 397.9	3.8
Italy	105 765.4	2.4	142 884.7	2.6
Armenia	97 946.4	2.3	118 201.3	2.2
Other countries	1 655 298.0	38.2	1 474 918.7	27.2

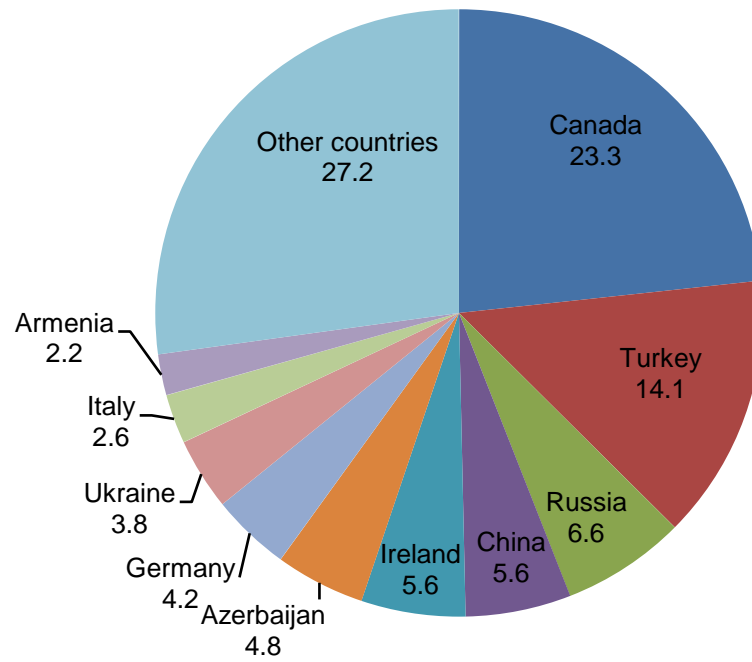
\*Preliminary data.

### Top trading partners by imports in January-July 2015-2016 (Million US Dollars)



\*Preliminary data.

Share of the top trading partners in total imports in January-July 2016\* (%)



\*Preliminary data.

## Major commodity groups by exports and imports

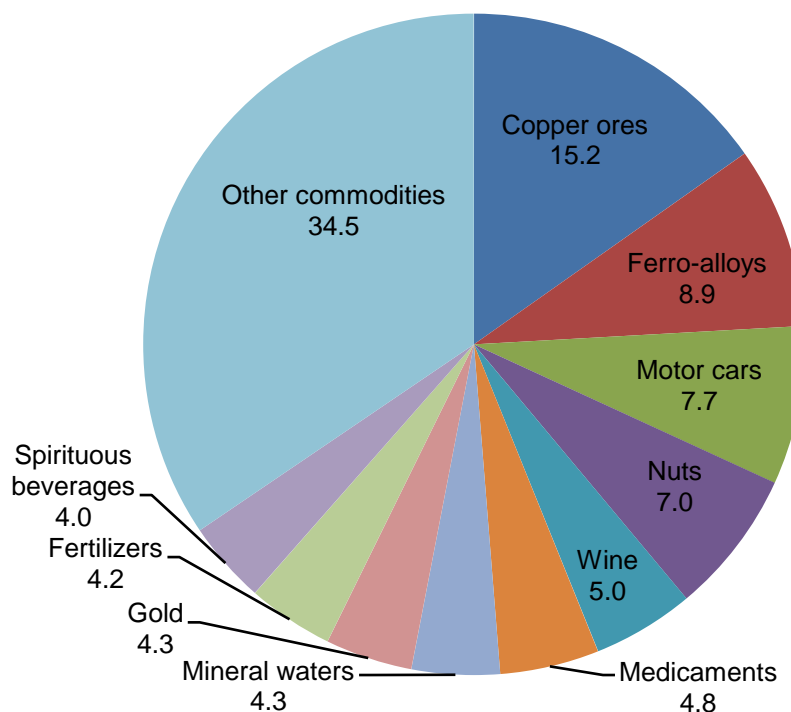
In January-July 2016 Copper ores and concentrates reclaimed the first place in the list of top export items, equaling USD 171 million, or 15 percent of total exports. Exports Ferro-alloys totaled USD 100 million and its share in the total exports amounted to 9 percent. Motor cars occupied the third place. Exports of this commodity group stood at USD 87 million and 8 percent of the total exports.

### Major commodity groups by exports

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>1 268 165.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 121 812.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Of which:				
Copper ores and concentrates	148 838.8	11.7	170 712.9	15.2
Ferro-alloys	129 556.3	10.2	99 853.9	8.9
Motor cars	110 800.0	8.7	86 930.9	7.7
Other nuts, fresh or dried	75 358.3	5.9	78 990.0	7.0
Wine of fresh grapes	47 957.2	3.8	55 726.1	5.0
Medicaments	76 047.4	6.0	54 344.4	4.8
Waters, natural or artificial mineral and aerated waters	54 056.0	4.3	48 434.0	4.3
Gold unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms	34 458.3	2.7	47 686.8	4.3
Mineral or chemical fertilizers	62 521.8	4.9	47 246.3	4.2
Undenatured ethyl alcohol, spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages	32 656.7	2.6	45 032.4	4.0
Other commodities	495 915.1	39.1	386 854.5	34.5

\*Preliminary data.

**Share of major commodity groups by exports in January-July 2016\* (%)**



\*Preliminary data.

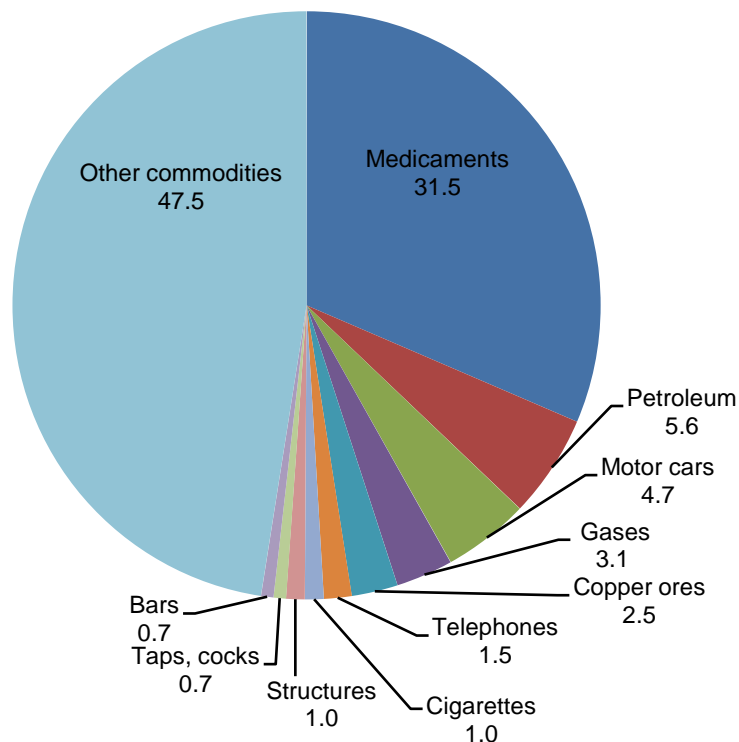
The top import commodity in January-July 2016 were Medicaments, imports of which amounted to USD 1708 million and 32 percent of the total imports from which USD 1558 million comes to the import of C hepatitis medicaments. Petroleum and petroleum oils commodity group followed in the list with USD 306 million, or 6 percent of imports. Motor cars came third with USD 257 million (5 percent of imports).

#### Major commodity groups by imports

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)	Thsd. US Dollars	Share in total (%)
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>4 331 216.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5 426 239.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Of which:				
Medicaments	405 445.7	9.4	1 707 592.9	31.5
Petroleum and petroleum oils	371 463.0	8.6	306 467.6	5.6
Motor cars	294 174.2	6.8	257 476.9	4.7
Petroleum gases and other gaseous	236 546.2	5.5	169 780.0	3.1
Copper ores and concentrates	118 884.2	2.7	138 290.8	2.5
Telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks	81 303.0	1.9	83 143.6	1.5
Cigarettes	51 982.1	1.2	55 544.9	1.0
Structures and parts of structures of iron	31 417.4	0.7	54 910.8	1.0
Taps, cocks, valves and similar appliances for pipes	22 267.3	0.5	37 311.0	0.7
Bars and rods of iron	32 928.4	0.8	36 940.3	0.7
Other commodities	2 684 804.8	62.0	2 578 780.9	47.5

\*Preliminary data.

#### Share of major commodity groups by imports in January-July 2016\* (%)



\*Preliminary data.

## Top trading partners by turnover

### CANADA

#### Exports of major commodity groups to Canada

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>39 896.0</b>		<b>40 002.8</b>	
Of which:				
Gold unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms	32 969.8	1.6	31 576.6	1.5
Ferro-alloys	5 962.6	5 797.6	7 254.5	10 300.4
Other nuts, fresh or dried	-	-	529.9	69.6
Wine of fresh grapes	561.7	87.8	272.4	64.1
Waters, natural or artificial mineral and aerated waters	239.4	282.1	217.6	271.5
Other commodities	162.6		151.9	

\*Preliminary data.

#### Imports of major commodity groups from Canada

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>5 978.2</b>		<b>1 264 372.6</b>	
Of which:				
Medicaments	243.6	3.8	1 260 161.7	5.3
Fish, frozen	483.9	257.7	1 719.0	1 399.1
Meat of swine	989.3	613.5	761.1	468.1
Motor cars (units)	1 072.5	107	535.7	75
Meat of the poultry	305.6	272.0	409.6	305.1
Other commodities	2 883.3		785.6	

\*Preliminary data.

## TURKEY

### Exports of major commodity groups to Turkey

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>125 423.1</b>		<b>123 997.2</b>	
Of which:				
T-shirts knitted	27 665.6	778.6	26 622.4	974.7
Flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal, of fish or of crustaceans	4 322.0	2 471.6	13 428.2	9 322.5
Electrical energy	14 007.1	...	11 761.4	...
Bars and rods of iron	4 944.2	10 838.0	8 788.1	22 493.8
Men's suits, ensembles knitted or crocheted	5 493.9	158.3	7 760.9	287.7
Other commodities	68 990.2		55 636.2	

\*Preliminary data.

### Imports of major commodity groups from Turkey

	January-July 2015*		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>746 807.8</b>		<b>767 277.6</b>	
Of which:				
Structures and parts of structures of iron or steel	19 488.3	9 737.9	35 597.6	18 426.6
Medicaments	46 947.7	528.3	28 546.9	457.4
Tubes and pipes of iron or steel	18 796.1	25 894.2	22 745.8	34 695.4
Sanitary commodities	20 300.9	4 494.3	22 379.4	6 458.8
Insulated wire and cable	12 509.7	2 564.7	22 071.9	4 616.5
Other commodities	628 765.1		635 936.2	

\*Preliminary data.

## RUSSIA

### Exports of major commodity groups to Russia

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>85 167.5</b>		<b>101 569.5</b>	
Of which:				
Wine of fresh grapes	22 390.0	6 797.8	27 497.5	9 872.8
Waters, natural or artificial mineral and aerated waters	20 469.5	24 628.6	21 884.6	32 255.3
Ferro-alloys	12 618.8	13 596.1	14 656.3	21 242.4
Undenatured ethyl alcohol, spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages	4 957.9	833.8	6 255.8	1 200.6
Other nuts, fresh or dried	3 560.8	297.8	4 127.2	710.0
Other commodities	21 170.6		27 148.1	

\*Preliminary data.

### Imports of major commodity groups from Russia

	January-July 2015		January-July 2016*	
	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons	Thsd. US Dollars	Tons
<b>Total imports</b>	<b>310 899.3</b>		<b>358 013.2</b>	
Of which:				
Petroleum and petroleum oils	32 884.3	62 618.5	58 957.9	137 321.2
Wheat	54 016.1	226 360.7	36 739.2	190 177.9
Cigarettes	10 386.8	532.0	19 232.4	1 360.1
Electrical energy	15 904.9	...	14 941.9	...
Sunflower oil	11 805.8	11 607.4	14 643.4	14 938.1
Other commodities	185 901.3		213 498.4	

\*Preliminary data.

**External trade balance**

	Number of countries	External trade balance Mil. US Dollars
<b>Negative trade balance</b>		
January-July 2015	98	3 250,8
January-July 2016*	88	4 439,3
<b>Positive trade balance</b>		
January-July 2015	33	187,7
January-July 2016*	38	134,9
<b>Total</b>		
January-July 2015	131	3 063,1
January-July 2016*	126	4 304,4

\*Preliminary data.

**Georgian external trade by countries in January-July 2016\***

**(Thsd. US Dollars)**

	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
<b>External trade – Total</b>	<b>1 121 812.2</b>	<b>5 426 239.9</b>	<b>-4 304 427.7</b>
Of which:			
<b>EU countries</b>	<b>253 690.9</b>	<b>1 423 152.2</b>	<b>-1 169 461.3</b>
Austria	248.4	40 025.9	-39 777.5
Belgium	3 638.3	34 869.2	-31 230.8
Bulgaria	73 657.8	65 786.9	7 870.8
Croatia	0.7	1 074.1	-1 073.4
Cyprus	424.1	1 325.9	-901.8
Czech Republic	6 786.9	31 938.6	-25 151.7
Denmark	483.8	7 785.4	-7 301.6
Estonia	1 800.8	3 589.8	-1 789.0
Finland	10.5	7 559.1	-7 548.5
France	10 389.3	61 878.7	-51 489.5
Germany	29 344.3	228 781.0	-199 436.8
Greece	8 751.3	26 596.8	-17 845.5
Hungary	409.8	23 490.0	-23 080.3
Ireland	257.7	301 325.3	-301 067.6
Italy	40 029.9	142 884.7	-102 854.8
Latvia	3 017.7	17 659.7	-14 642.1
Lithuania	13 478.5	23 493.9	-10 015.4
Luxembourg	0.3	970.2	-969.8
Malta	1 525.5	962.4	563.1
Netherlands	18 472.5	74 769.8	-56 297.3
Poland	4 458.5	53 530.6	-49 072.1
Portugal	1 019.9	10 743.1	-9 723.2
Romania	4 055.6	104 101.4	-100 045.9
Slovakia	4 010.1	8 332.7	-4 322.5
Slovenia	17.4	12 373.9	-12 356.5
Spain	20 867.2	47 472.2	-26 605.1
Sweden	19.4	4 775.8	-4 756.4
United Kingdom	6 514.7	85 054.9	-78 540.1
<b>CIS countries</b>	<b>357 908.6</b>	<b>1 035 100.9</b>	<b>-677 192.2</b>



	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
Armenia	87 432.4	118 201.3	-30 768.9
Azerbaijan	58 247.5	259 172.1	-200 924.6
Belarus	8 862.6	40 085.3	-31 222.7
Kazakhstan	17 414.0	9 839.4	7 574.6
Kyrgyzstan	3 535.3	953.2	2 582.1
Moldova	980.3	4 301.9	-3 321.5
Russia	101 569.5	358 013.2	-256 443.7
Tajikistan	1 028.6	-	1 028.6
Turkmenistan	6 453.9	31 625.8	-25 171.9
Ukraine	31 665.0	207 397.9	-175 732.9
Uzbekistan	40 719.6	5 510.9	35 208.7
<b>Other countries</b>	<b>510 212.7</b>	<b>2 967 986.8</b>	<b>-2 457 774.1</b>
Afghanistan	43.1	24.3	18.8
Albania	3.7	14.2	-10.5
Algeria	292.8	0.9	291.9
Angola	618.4	-	618.4
Argentina	-	959.8	-959.8
Australia	253.2	682.4	-429.2
Bahrain	116.7	0.1	116.6
Bangladesh	-	606.8	-606.8
Belize	-	87.5	-87.5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	153.3	-153.3
Brazil	273.3	57 192.4	-56 919.1
Cambodia	1.3	4.9	-3.6
Cameroon	-	0.1	-0.1
Canada	40 002.8	1 264 372.6	-1 224 369.8
Chile	977.8	3 919.9	-2 942.1
China	109 233.5	303 895.4	-194 661.9
Colombia	1 682.6	62.2	1 620.5
Congo	330.4	-	330.4
Costa Rica	28.4	197.2	-168.7
Cuba	5.1	47.1	-42.1
Djibouti	3.9	-	3.9
Ecuador	-	8 433.3	-8 433.3
Egypt	10 604.7	2 524.7	8 080.0
Faroe Islands	-	359.3	-359.3
Gabon	-	5 098.3	-5 098.3
Ghana	34.5	-	34.5
Gibraltar	3 378.7	-	3 378.7
Guatemala	213.6	-	213.6
Hong Kong, SAR of China	3 080.2	43 194.6	-40 114.4
Iceland	0.1	1 495.3	-1 495.2
India	13 358.6	47 652.7	-34 294.0
Indonesia	7.0	5 110.3	-5 103.3
Iran	19 660.8	45 642.0	-25 981.2
Iraq	16 229.2	1 467.9	14 761.3
Israel	3 128.8	6 839.7	-3 710.9
Jamaica	5.6	-	5.6
Japan	667.2	94 448.2	-93 781.1
Jordan	307.6	189.4	118.2

	Exports (FOB)	Imports (CIF)	Balance
Kenya	60.1	7.5	52.6
Korea, Republic of	5 831.4	25 814.2	-19 982.9
Kuwait	85.0	5.2	79.8
Lebanon	458.3	1 336.8	-878.5
Libya	267.9	-	267.9
Liechtenstein	-	275.3	-275.3
Macedonia (FYR)	12.8	1 321.5	-1 308.7
Malawi	-	13.5	-13.5
Malaysia	218.8	5 495.7	-5 276.9
Martinique	28.8	-	28.8
Mauritius	2.2	-	2.2
Mexico	4 883.3	1 440.6	3 442.8
Monaco	15.8	4.9	10.9
Mongolia	468.2	-	468.2
Morocco	41.5	1 241.8	-1 200.3
Myanmar	-	10.7	-10.7
Nepal	-	11.4	-11.4
New Zealand	-	1 428.1	-1 428.1
Nigeria	26.5	16.0	10.5
Norway	51.4	4 755.5	-4 704.0
Oman	-	11.4	-11.4
Pakistan	34.9	2 288.2	-2 253.3
Panama	1 385.7	111.1	1 274.6
Peru	1 323.8	6 370.1	-5 046.3
Philippines	72.8	80.3	-7.5
Qatar	481.8	89.8	392.0
San Marino	-	144.8	-144.8
Saudi Arabia	14 486.8	1 634.8	12 852.1
Serbia and Montenegro	10.4	2 563.0	-2 552.5
Singapore	6 157.8	9 618.2	-3 460.3
South Africa	121.2	4 858.2	-4 737.0
Sri Lanka	1.4	904.6	-903.2
Sudan	4.0	10.3	-6.2
Suriname	-	119.0	-119.0
Switzerland	46 873.2	19 386.2	27 487.1
Syrian	563.7	172.2	391.5
Taiwan, Province of China	742.6	3 663.6	-2 921.0
Tanzania,	650.5	12.7	637.8
Thailand	-	7 837.1	-7 837.1
Tunisia	2 834.1	91.1	2 743.1
Turkey	123 997.2	767 277.6	-643 280.5
Uganda	25.6	-	25.6
United Arab Emirates	21 635.5	74 053.0	-52 417.5
United States	50 614.3	114 854.5	-64 240.2
Uruguay	317.6	574.7	-257.1
Viet Nam	546.9	12 684.6	-12 137.7
Virgin Islands, British	-	636.2	-636.2
Virgin Islands, U.S	-	84.3	-84.3
Zimbabwe	335.4	-	335.4

\*Preliminary data.

**Sources:** LEPL Revenue Service of Ministry of Finance of Georgia;  
LEPL Service Agency of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia;  
Georgian State Electric System, LTD;  
Georgian Gas Transportation Company, LTD.

**Explanation of symbols:**

- Not applicable;
- 0.0 Negligible magnitude;
- \* Data are preliminary and subject to revisions;
- ... Data are confidential.

- Notice:**
1. The discrepancy between the totals and the sum in some cases can be explained by using rounded data;
  2. Data for 2011-2015 are updated by the data of Special Customs Declarations;
  3. Information does not cover the data of Simplified Customs Declarations (Form №4);
  4. According to the international methodology, there are some difference in coverage of trade flows between external merchandise trade statistics and customs statistics. Diplomatic, temporary, transit and analogous goods are excluded from the database of external merchandise trade statistics.